



Government of  
Saskatchewan

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# 2006 – 2007 Annual Report

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Saskatchewan  
Advanced Education  
and Employment

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# Letters of Transmittal



April 2007

The Honourable Warren McCall  
Minister of Advanced Education and Employment

The Honourable Pat Atkinson  
Minister Responsible for Immigration

Dear Minister McCall and Minister Atkinson:

I have the honour of submitting the annual report on behalf of the Department of Advanced Education and Employment for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Durnford  
Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Employment

April 2007

His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart  
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan  
Government House  
Regina, Saskatchewan .



Your Honour:

As the Ministers of Advanced Education and Employment and Immigration,  
we are pleased to submit the Annual Report for the fiscal year ending  
March 31, 2007.

The Department of Advanced Education and Employment is actively  
and aggressively implementing its plan to build Saskatchewan's labour force  
and ensure citizens have the support they need to live, study, work and build  
their futures right here at home.

We are working together with businesses, municipalities, labour, employers,  
post-secondary education and training institutions, Aboriginal leaders and  
citizens to create a vision for Saskatchewan – a vision of continued growth  
and prosperity for all people in the province.



We are continuing our efforts in retaining, developing and attracting a skilled  
and educated workforce to support Saskatchewan's economic and social  
growth. Our initiatives include the new Graduate Tax Exemption, creating  
more education and skills training opportunities, developing programs for First  
Nations and Northern learners, funding research in our universities, increasing  
affordable post-secondary education by extending the tuition freeze,  
enhancing student loans and the Provincial Training Allowance. In addition,  
we are providing additional resources to increase immigration and settlement  
initiatives, promote job opportunities and link job seekers with employers  
through our SaskJobs.ca website.

Saskatchewan's economic landscape has changed and the rest of Canada is  
noticing our potential. We are proud to be a part of the new Saskatchewan!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Warren McCall".

Warren McCall  
Minister of Advanced Education  
and Employment

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pat Atkinson".

Pat Atkinson  
Minister of Immigration

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# Introduction

Saskatchewan Advanced Education and Employment's (AEE) annual report provides a review of the performance and financial results during the 2006/07 fiscal year. AEE did not publish a Performance Plan in 2006/07, so the performance results are based on the activities and deliverables from the province's Performance Plan Summary and the third quarter and mid-year investments.

The department has identified the challenges, risks and opportunities related to post-secondary education and training, employment and immigration. The Performance Plan Summary includes plans to address the opportunities and measure progress in achieving AEE's goals and objectives.

The 2006/07 annual report provides:

- Performance measurement results according to our goals and objectives in the 2006/07 Performance Plan Summary; and
- 2006/07 Financial Results.

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## Who We Are

In April 2006, AEE was created by bringing together elements from a number of departments to respond to labour market needs. These elements include post-secondary education and training, career and employment services and immigration services.

The mandate of AEE is to provide leadership and support to advanced education, training, employment and immigration, as well as to help connect people with jobs and careers in Saskatchewan. The Department responds to the needs of individual learners, job seekers, employers and the provincial labour market to create a vital, educated and skilled workforce to advance the social and economic well-being of Saskatchewan people.

An educated workforce is perhaps the most critical asset in the global, knowledge-based economy. The human capital challenge is more than just about raising the general level of education in society. It is about gearing education and skills to meet the ever growing, focused needs of the economy. This challenge requires a commitment to life-long learning, skills renewal and upgrading and on-the-job training. The province must implement programs to retain our highly educated, productive knowledge workers and attract workers from outside Saskatchewan and outside Canada who have these skills. The province must also prepare workplaces to support an increasingly diverse workforce.

Successful economic development in a knowledge-based economy is also dependent on strong social development. While Saskatchewan's population must hold the necessary skills to attain meaningful participation within the province's economic development, residents must also embrace the skills to participate in the social fabric of the province, as active and contributing citizens. Developing our human capital achieves both social and economic ends.

AEE focuses on three strategic areas to meet its mandate, which are retaining educated and skilled workers within the province, developing a skilled and educated workforce by providing education and training programs, and attracting educated and skilled workers and their families to the province.

## **Delivery of Key Programs and Services**

The Department accomplishes its mandate through the delivery of a wide range of programs and services for learners, job seekers and employers. In order to ensure that Saskatchewan's labour force meets the needs of the labour market, regional and provincial planning processes engage employers, businesses, industries and an extensive range of partners including post-secondary institutions and organizations, community-based organizations, other provincial government departments and orders of government such as the federal government, Aboriginal governments and municipal governments.

Programs and services are delivered by the department as well as by partner institutions and organizations including the University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, First Nations University of Canada, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIASST), Regional Colleges, Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC), Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT), Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI), private vocational schools and community-based organizations (CBO) focused on employment preparation and settlement of immigrants. These partner institutions are accountable to government through legislation specific to their institution or organization, or by contracts and agreements. Funding is provided directly to the public post-secondary institutions, whereas non-public institutions receive funding through specific agreements and contracts.

In 2006-07, AEE employed approximately 460 people between the central office in Regina and the 20 Canada-Saskatchewan Career and Employment Services offices.

In addition to significant work providing strategic planning, research and policy direction to partners and stakeholders, AEE directly administers some programs and services. These include:

- For learners, AEE offers electronic education and career planning services such as SaskCAT and SaskNetWork, as well as student financial assistance in the form of loans, bursaries and grants.
- For job seekers, AEE offers on-line job searches through SaskJobs, as well as interview skills, application services, Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) services and integration and settlement services for immigrants.
- For employers, AEE provides work-based training programs, job postings and job matching on SaskJobs, as well as sector partnerships to develop human resource plans for industry.



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## 2006/07 Results at a Glance

The combination of changing demographics and strong economic growth creates challenges for the department and the province. AEE is committed to responding to the education, skills development and training needs of individual learners, job seekers, employers and the broader needs of the provincial labour market in order to advance the social and economic well-being of the province.

The following description of AEE's performance results for the past fiscal year is based on the Labour Market Strategy's three broad themes: retain, develop and attract. It focuses on results from the perspective of learners, job seekers and employers.

### Summary of Performance Results

Over the last year, AEE developed a Labour Market Strategy. The Labour Market Strategy responds to several converging trends related to the province's demographics, labour market and economy that are resulting in a shortage of skilled and qualified labour to meet the needs of the provincial economy. Changing demographics are driving a significant change in the composition of the overall population and the labour force. Saskatchewan has an aging population and a declining birth rate. As the baby boomers retire, an increased number of people will leave the labour force. At the same time, declining birth rates are resulting in fewer young people going through the K-12 system and becoming available to enter the labour market.

In contrast to many other jurisdictions in Canada, the young and growing Aboriginal population in the province offsets the declining birth rate to some extent. However, Saskatchewan Aboriginal people generally have lower educational attainment and labour market attachment levels than the rest of the population. Despite ongoing efforts to actively engage this population in post-secondary education, training and subsequently within the labour force at rates consistent with the non-Aboriginal population, improvements remain to be made.

Saskatchewan has had a significant increase in economic activity and employment growth. The Saskatchewan Employment Forecast projects an estimated 90,000 employment opportunities from 2005 to 2010. Approximately three-quarters of those jobs will be due to attrition and around one-quarter will be from new job growth. Nine out of 10 job openings over the forecast period will require a minimum of a high school diploma. Nearly two-thirds (64 per cent) of all predicted job openings will require management or post-secondary education or training. The largest number of opportunities will be for jobs that require a post-secondary certificate or diploma.

Saskatchewan's strong economy and labour market has had a positive impact on population and migration. In January 2007, Saskatchewan's population was 987,939 - an increase of 0.2 per cent (2,080 individuals). This was the third consecutive quarterly increase and it exceeded the national rate of 0.14 per cent (47,091 individuals).

During the past year, AEE undertook a significant number of active recruitment and promotion campaigns both within and outside of Canada. These campaigns have had positive results as evidenced by the third quarter population growth, which was largely due to increased inter-provincial migration (more people moved to the province), increased immigration and decreased out-migration (fewer people left the province).

In 2006/07, AEE's central office in Regina and the 20 Canada-Saskatchewan Career and Employment Services offices served approximately:

- 50,695 post-secondary education and training students;
- 12,000 job seekers (through direct contact and online contact via SaskJobs); and
- 2,055 immigrants including 1,255 Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominees.

The Department also provided:

- policy direction, funding and regulatory oversight to the post-secondary education and training sector, which graduates approximately 6,513 certificate/diploma recipients, 31,613 degree recipients and 1,120 journeypersons annually;
- a wide range of programs and services to learners, job seekers and immigrants through contracts with community-based organizations;
- \$9.85 million in research funding to the province's universities; and
- \$141,264,000 in funding to learners and job seekers through loans, bursaries and grants<sup>1</sup>.

### Summary of Financial Results

In 2006/07, total actual expenditures for the department were \$689.41 million resulting in a variance of \$85.48 million in excess expenditures over the budget of \$603.93 million.

The variance of \$85.48 million primarily reflects approved funding of \$73.14 million for post-secondary capital, \$15.32 million in approved funding for the Labour Market Strategy and \$6.6 million for the collective agreement costs of the training institutions. This is offset by an under expenditure of \$7.23 million in the Provincial Training Allowance, \$1.64 million in Immigration reflecting a slower ramp up to full utilization than anticipated and \$0.65 million in capital funding for French Language Services.

Revenue for the department was \$59.20 million; \$3.56 million lower than the net budgeted \$62.8 million. The decrease was primarily due to decreased federal funding to the department under the following agreements:

- Labour Market Partnership Agreement (\$7.37 million);
- Bilateral Agreement associated with the Official Minority Language Office (OMLO) (\$0.64 million);
- Older Workers Program (\$0.34 million); and
- Labour Market Development Agreement (\$0.04 million).

The above was offset by revenue increases as a result of:

- Funding from SIAST for the Kelsey capital expansion (\$3.57 million). This fully offset the special warrant received by AEE to allow the government to account appropriately for the improvements to the SIAST Kelsey Campus, which it owns.
- Funding from new federal-provincial agreements (\$0.91 million) for:
  - Counselling and case management services for Métis clients (\$0.67 million);
  - Enhanced Language Training (\$0.2 million); and
  - Office of French Language Coordination (\$0.04 million).
- Transfers from Health for the International Education for Health Professionals (\$0.13 million);
- Casual Revenue receipts (\$0.17 million); and
- Recoveries of Previous Years' Expenditures (\$0.23 million).

<sup>1</sup> Includes: Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Loans, Saskatchewan Student Bursary, Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation Bursary, and Canada and Saskatchewan Study Grants for Students with Dependents.

# 2006/07 Performance Results

The department's performance results are reported relative to the priorities of retaining, developing and attracting labour, to meet the province's needs and advance the social and economic well-being of the province.

## Retain

In order to meet the province's labour market needs, Saskatchewan must retain its population including those people we educate, those we attract and those who already live here. Demonstrating how employment and lifestyle options available in Saskatchewan are competitive with those of other jurisdictions helps retain people here. In addition, employers must develop and maintain work environments that make them employers of choice for current and future employees. The following actions were aimed at retaining people in Saskatchewan:

- The 2007 Saskatchewan Youth Summit brought together youth aged 19-30 from across the province to speak with each other and with provincial stakeholders from a variety of sectors on creating a shared vision for the future of the province. A strong youth response resulted in higher than anticipated registration and attendance. In total, approximately 400 youth attended the summit with nearly 200 provincial stakeholders from business, post-secondary education and training institutions, labour, community-based organizations and provincial and municipal governments. A summary of the discussions and recommendations arranged in a final report is available on the Youth Summit website: [www.saskyouthsummit.ca](http://www.saskyouthsummit.ca).
- The Career and Employment Services Branch has assumed an expanded role in the growth and development of the Saskatchewan workforce. It has added new services to increase efforts to improve labour market transitions for young workers and graduates, as well as to assist employers in recruiting workers.
- In June 2005, the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation surveyed individuals in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta and New Brunswick enrolled in the Grade 12 class of 2003. The survey gathered data on their

transitions in the two years since Grade 12, as well as data about those factors, which influenced their participation or non-participation in post-secondary education. The data focuses on three main areas: the profile of respondents, their high school experiences and their experiences following high school. The majority of Saskatchewan youth surveyed (85.5 per cent) remained in the province and 70 per cent enrolled in or completed a post-secondary education/training program. Results related to post-secondary education/training attendance and employment were generally less positive for Aboriginal youth than for those who are non-Aboriginal.

- Graduates, from the 2004/05 academic year, completed a post-secondary graduate follow-up survey. The graduates were from the University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, SIAT, SIIT, SATCC and private vocational schools. The survey gathered information on graduates' satisfaction with their education, sources of financing for their education, education-related debt level, pre-graduate and post-graduate mobility, and education and employment outcomes. Key outcomes indicated 85 per cent of the graduates remained in Saskatchewan, nearly all graduates (88.3 per cent) had employment at the time of the survey and the unemployment rate for graduates (3.25 per cent) was well below that for the province (4.1 per cent). However, Aboriginal graduates indicated higher unemployment rates and lower average annual incomes than non-Aboriginal graduates.
- The planned increase of \$1,000 to the Graduate Tax Credit (GTC) by January 2007 to help students establish their careers at home was not implemented. The new Graduate Tax Exemption (GTE) announced in the 2007/08 budget replaced the GTC program. The GTE will exempt \$20,000 of a new graduate's income per year for five years from Saskatchewan income tax. Graduates utilizing the full exemption will save \$1,100 per year for a total of \$5,500 over five years. Students can carry forward unused exemptions from each year for the next five tax years.

## Develop

AEE and its partners must maximize opportunities that increase the knowledge and skills of learners, job seekers and employers, including currently under-represented groups within the labour force. Youth need the general and specific skills required by the labour market to begin their careers. Adults need opportunities to continuously update and learn skills required by constantly evolving workplaces. A flexible array of options and opportunities is required for all adults to develop and continuously advance their knowledge, skills and abilities in order to participate in the labour force.

The performance of the Saskatchewan labour market has been strong over the past 12 months, posting monthly record employment highs from April 2006 to March 2007. This reflects economic growth and the more recent trends of population growth and net in-migration from other provinces.

### Increasing Educational and Training Capacity

Institutional capacity expanded significantly through the following activities:

- 2,700 new opportunities through programs offered at public training institutions, apprenticeship and JobStart/Future Skills work-based training with employers. There were 1,831 opportunities taken in the Work-based Training for the Unemployed and 959 opportunities in the Work-based Training for the Employed compared to a target of 3,000.
- \$13.3 million allocated to create an additional 2,584 training opportunities in the areas of health, education, trades, skills and basic education. The final figures for outcomes of these additional opportunities are not available until the fall 2007.
- \$4.05 million increase in basic operating funding for SIAST including \$1.2 million to expand core technical and vocational training by 150 opportunities under the CareerStart initiative.
- \$259,000 increase for the SATCC to fund collective agreement costs, increased training costs and Department of Property Management costs.
- \$1.24 million for Regional Colleges and the Dumont Technical Institute (DTI) to fully fund pay equity, collective agreement costs and accommodation cost increases, as well as to provide a general operating increase.
- \$520,000 investment to fund the ongoing expansion of the nursing program. This funding represents the annualized costs as expanded groups of students move through both the second-degree program and the traditional program. We expect 260 graduates in 2006/07.
- \$500,000 to increase the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) capacity at SIAST, Regional Colleges and support for Saskatchewan Council for Admissions and Transfers (SaskCAT).
- \$134,000 supports the SATCC in expanding its Youth Apprenticeship Program province-wide. The program allows high school students to gain apprenticeship experience while attending high school.
- \$40 million targeted for projects in Saskatoon and Regina. Of the \$40 million, \$32 million supports the development of skills training for inner-city youth and other learners in Saskatoon and Regina. The development of these integrated facilities is in partnership with the pre-K-12 school system, SIAST, SIIT, DTI, SATCC, the cities and the community. In Saskatoon, the training facility will be housed at Mount Royal Collegiate. It will offer integrated skill-specific and academic upgrading opportunities for inner-city high school students and young adults. It will also support students to manage a successful transition into jobs and/or post-secondary education. Regina's initiatives include development of an inner-city skills and trades centre that will help young people develop workplace skills and overall academic skills.

- \$3.4 million in incremental funding (for a total of \$10.8 million in 2006/07) provided to address accreditation at the College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Due to actions taken, the College was removed from probationary status and had their accreditation status restored.
- AEE negotiated a new two-year targeted initiative for older workers with the federal government. This program begins in 2007/08.

### Planning and Information

Strengthened planning influences the alignment of educated, trained and skilled workers with Saskatchewan's current and anticipated labour force demand. The following activities contributed to strengthening provincial and regional planning:

- The Saskatchewan Labour Market Commission was established as a legislated body. The Commission's major responsibility is to provide strategic advice to government on substantive provincial, regional and sectoral labour market trends, issues and strategies. It fosters cooperation among business, labour, First Nations and Métis organizations and the provincial government to develop labour market strategies, policies and solutions. Business and labour co-chair the Commission and provide equal representation from both areas. The Commission also includes representatives from the social economy, training institutions and government.

The composition of the Commission provides a forum where business and labour can discuss important labour market development issues and come to an agreement on what they need to do to address the issues. It also helps to ensure that there is a clearer delineation of the shared responsibility among businesses, labour, the training system and government in responding to labour market needs.

- The Department initiated work with the Petroleum Human Resource Council of Canada to embark on a human resource and training needs analysis of the upstream oil and gas sector in Saskatchewan.
- A 2006 Saskatchewan Employment Forecast was completed. It projects provincial industrial and occupational employment for 2005 to 2010, and the 2006 Detailed Occupational Outlook, which identifies over 120 occupations that have good employment prospects in Saskatchewan over the forecast period.

### Educational Attainment

Knowledge of career choices and skill requirements enables learners and job seekers to align skill development with employment goals.

- The 2006/07 Saskatchewan Job Futures Job Chart was developed as a career planning resource to help inform on career choices and support transitions to post-secondary education and the labour market. The job chart

Educational Attainment of the Saskatchewan Labour Force				
	High school graduate (%)	Some post-secondary (%)	Certificate or diploma graduate (%)	University degree graduate (%)
1999 Baseline	22.4	10.5	30.1	13.7
2000	23.8	10.3	30.1	14.1
2001	24.0	9.5	31.8	14.3
2002	24.4	9.3	31.9	14.9
2003	23.5	9.4	33.8	14.9
2004	24.3	9.7	32.7	15.4
2005	24.2	9.4	32.8	16.1
2006	24.6	9.1	31.3	16.8



profiles a sample of over 100 Saskatchewan occupations detailing the education and training requirements, work duties, wage information and employment prospects. The distribution of over 70,000 copies went to provincial high schools, post-secondary institutions and the Canada-Saskatchewan Career and Employment Services offices.

- AEE supported a similar publication called *Relevance* that was produced by a number of partners. It was distributed to all high school students across Saskatchewan.

## Results

The educational status of the province's labour force is an indicator of the post-secondary education sector's contribution to developing the province's workforce. Increases in educational attainment are due to a combination of factors including changing demographics and more young people entering post-secondary education.

## Accessibility of Education

The province's geography means many potential participants in post-secondary education and training live at significant distances from the universities and SIAST campuses. In order to mitigate this potential disadvantage, the province has a network of Regional Colleges that offer certificate, diploma and degree programming. It also addresses accessibility through alternative program delivery options.

Planning for Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) content development and learner services is coordinated across the post-secondary education and training system. Provincial planning has resulted in a program approach that emphasizes a broad array of courses and programs available by alternative means and common policies (such as the Visiting Student Application Form) to remove barriers and increase opportunities for learners to complete credentials by taking courses from more than one provincial institution.

## Results

Enrolments identify the number of individuals able to take advantage of available post-secondary programs and services in publicly funded institutions.

The following table identifies the number of participants in post-secondary education and training at Regional Colleges and in work-based training through JobStart/Future Skills programs:

Enrolments by Type of Delivery		
	JobStart/ Future Skills	Regional Colleges
Baseline: 2003/04	4,078	20,828
2004/05	3,253	19,672
2005/06	4,235	21,545

The number of enrolments for 2005/06 (latest available data) over 2004/05 increased for most credentials: diploma/certificate (1,030), apprentices (388) and Adult Basic Education (287). However, the number of enrolments in degree programs decreased by 240. This was primarily due to decreased undergraduate enrolments at both provincial universities.

In addition, enrolments in JobStart/Future Skills increased by 982. Annual enrolments fluctuate depending on the type of training approved, the cost per participant and the level of funding provided.

The following table outlines the number of enrolments in programs by type of credential granted:

<b>Enrolments by Credentials</b>				
	Degree	Certificate/Diploma	Apprentices served	Adult Basic Education
2000/01	29,940	6,523	6,615	5,077
2001/02	30,813	5,649	6,244	4,987
2002/03	31,203	5,434	6,552	5,033
2003/04	31,687	5,512	6,380	4,982
2004/05	31,853	5,483	6,817	5,217
2005/06	31,613	6,513	7,205	5,364

#### **Data Sources:**

- University of Saskatchewan, Statistics Prepared by Institutional Analysis, 2003/04 to 2004/05 from the Student Information System – Student Head Count for Regular Session by Program Level Table 2. Current Statistics; [www.usask.ca/ia/statistics](http://www.usask.ca/ia/statistics). 2005/06 from the Student Information System, October Snapshot.
- University of Regina, Fingertip Statistics, March 1, 2006 – Head Count Enrolment, fall semester; [www.uregina.ca/presoff/orp/FactBookReports/Fingertip.pdf](http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/orp/FactBookReports/Fingertip.pdf)
- SIAST 2005/06 Annual Report & October 2006 Census Data for Academic Year 2005/06; [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com).
- Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Annual Reports, 2003/04 to 2005/06; [www.saskapprenticeship.gov.sk.ca/index.php](http://www.saskapprenticeship.gov.sk.ca/index.php).
- Student Information System, Institutions Branch, Saskatchewan Learning.
- JobStart/Future Skills Follow-up Survey completed by SIAST, the Regional Colleges and DTI 60-90 days after the completion of every program and project and submitted to AEE.
- Adult Basic Education Follow-up Survey completed annually by SIAST, the Regional Colleges, DTI, SIIT and submitted to AEE.
- Regional Colleges Student Information System, Saskatchewan Learning.

Graduation/completion indicates the success of individuals in programs and provides an assessment of how well the sector is addressing economic and social needs. The number of graduates includes those who complete a prescribed program for which a certificate, degree or diploma is granted. The number of completers includes those who attend the full term of the program they have registered for and those who attain their personal/academic goal.

The number of graduates/completers for 2005/06, over 2004/05, remained relatively stable for some credentials including degrees granted (176 with an increase of 30 between 2005/06 and 2006/07) and apprentices receiving journey person papers (increase of 24), while the number of completers in JobStart/Future Skills work-based training increased substantially (898).

However, the number of diplomas/certificates granted in 2005/06 decreased by 742 since 2004/05. A decrease in the number of participants accessing the home care/special care aide extension program and a decrease in enrolment at our SIAST Palliser Campus were factors in the number of diplomas/certificates granted.

The following table summarizes the number of graduates/completers by credential or program type:

*See next page*

Graduates/Completers by Credential or Program Type							
	2000/01 Baseline	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Degree (undergraduate and graduate)	5,041	4,967	5,064	5,196	5,174	5,350	5,380
Diploma/Certificate	4,334	4,487	4,441	4,473	4,858	4,116	N/A
Apprenticeship (receiving journeyperson papers)	950	1,067	1,043	1,015	1,096	1,120	N/A
Adult Basic Education	3,231	3,277	3,376	3,214	3,293	3,195	N/A
JobStart/Future Skills	3,169	2,495	3,103	3,668	2,775	3,673	N/A

#### Data Sources:

- SIAST 2005/06 Annual Report & October 2006 Census Data for Academic Year 2005/06; [www.goSIAST.com](http://www.goSIAST.com).
- University of Regina, Convocants at University of Regina, as of October 1, 2006 Office of Resource Planning, Convocation Details; [www.uregina.ca/presoff/orp/FactBookReports/ConvocationSummary.pdf](http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/orp/FactBookReports/ConvocationSummary.pdf).
- University of Saskatchewan, Statistics Prepared by Institutional Analysis, from the Student Information System – All Credentials Granted by Education Level, Calendar Year, and Ceremony Table 1, Current Statistics for 2000/01 to 2005/06; Section 4 Degrees Awarded and Alumni, Statistics Prior to 2003 for 1999/00; [www.usask.ca/ia/statistics/](http://www.usask.ca/ia/statistics/). 2006/07 Statistics, 2006 Spring & Fall Convocation, provided by the Office of Institutional Analysis, University of Saskatchewan.
- Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Annual Reports, 1999/00 to 2004/05; [www.saskapprenticeship.gov.sk.ca/index.php](http://www.saskapprenticeship.gov.sk.ca/index.php).
- JobStart/Future Skills Follow-up Survey completed by SIAST, the Regional Colleges and DTI 60-90 days after the completion of every program and project and submitted to AEE.
- Adult Basic Education Follow-up Survey completed annually by SIAST, the Regional Colleges, DTI, SIIT and submitted to AEE.

#### Responding to Affordability

The affordability of post-secondary education and training remains a high priority for government. Saskatchewan has a large rural population that faces geographic and additional financial barriers to post-secondary education.

- The province maintained tuition at 2004/05 levels for 2006/07. This allows greater access to university and makes it more affordable for students.
- The Honourable Warren McCall began a review of Affordability and Accessibility of Post-Secondary Education in Saskatchewan. As part of this review, he consulted extensively, including issuing a call for submissions, holding 11 public consultation hearings throughout the province, as well as meeting with the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee and holding Citizen

and Stakeholder Consensus Forums in Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina. Approximately 170 individuals representing 59 organizations were involved in the public consultation hearings. Minister McCall's consultations built on discussions the Department of Advanced Education and Employment held in 2005 during their internal review of accessibility of post-secondary education. Prior to releasing a final report, expected in the fall of 2007, further research and discussions on potential recommendations will occur with stakeholders.

- In partnership with the federal student loan program, an evaluation of the Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Student Loans Program was completed. The results of the evaluation are being reviewed and a plan for improvements to the program will be developed over the next year.



### Total Value of Student Loans Authorized<sup>2</sup>

	Total Value of Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Student Loans Authorized	Value of Canada Student Loans Authorized	Value of Saskatchewan Student Loans Authorized
2002/03	\$125,416,826	\$68,830,806	\$56,586,020
2003/04	\$131,592,816	\$71,861,183	\$59,731,633
2004/05	\$131,334,196	\$71,322,970	\$60,011,226
2005/06	\$134,101,742	\$79,525,365	\$54,576,377
2006/07	\$119,399,548	\$71,552,809	\$47,846,739

#### Data Source:

- Saskatchewan Aid Fund (SAF) Annual Report 2001/02 to 2006/07.

- The Provincial Training Allowance (PTA) increased by \$60 per month in recognition of the increased cost of living for students. The PTA provides income support for students in Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs, bridging and skill programs.
- The Centennial Merit Scholarships had an additional \$500,000 in funding allocated to bring the total amount for these scholarships to \$1.5 million. Saskatchewan universities, SIAST, Regional Colleges and the SATCC award these scholarships to students.
- Some individuals experience financial barriers to post-secondary education in Saskatchewan. The province provides a range of income support programs for learners. Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Student Loans are provided based on financial need. The total number of student loans authorized in 2006/07 was 13,828. This is down from a high of 16,449 in 2003/04.

### Results

The table above indicates the level of loan funding provided to individuals pursuing post-secondary education.

In 2006/07, the value of Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Student Loans decreased by \$14.7 million overall in comparison to 2005/06 (this includes a decrease in the value of the Canada student loans by \$8.0 million and a decrease in the value of Saskatchewan student loans by \$6.7 million). As well, the number of Saskatchewan Student Loans authorized in 2006/07 declined by 1,258 compared to 2005/06. The number of students applying for student assistance has dropped across most of Canada. All provinces, with the exception of Ontario, have experienced a decrease in the number of loans authorized.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Authorized student loans are loans that have been approved for funding.

<sup>3</sup> Canada Student Loans Program, At a Glance, February 26, 2006.

Average student debt on consolidation of Canada Student Loans and Saskatchewan Student Loans upon entering repayment					
2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
\$13,582	\$13,726	\$14,119	\$14,773	\$15,858	\$16,454

**Data Source:**

- Saskatchewan Learning, Student Financial Assistance Program.

**Student Debt**

Average student debt on consolidation of Canada Student Loans (CSL) and Saskatchewan Student Loans (SSL) following completion of studies<sup>4</sup> is identified in the above chart.

This chart indicates the average debt of students with government loans on consolidation of CSL/SSL - for borrowers entering repayment in 2005/06 the average debt was \$16,454. This is an increase of \$596 from 2004/05 and an increase of \$2,872 from 2000/01. Debt management tools, such as Interest Relief, Extended Interest Relief, Debt Reduction in Repayment and the Permanent Disability Benefit are available to assist borrowers experiencing difficulties repaying their loans.

Saskatchewan provides a wide range of debt reduction benefits to Saskatchewan student loan recipients including: Saskatchewan Student Bursary, Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation Bursary, and Canada and Saskatchewan Study Grants for Students with Dependents. In 2006/07, these debt reduction benefits totalled over \$35 million.

These figures do not track student debt on an individual basis over the length of a program of study or reflect total borrowing (either public or private). The number represents all borrowers who enter repayment (i.e., successful graduates, as well as those who left prior to program completion).

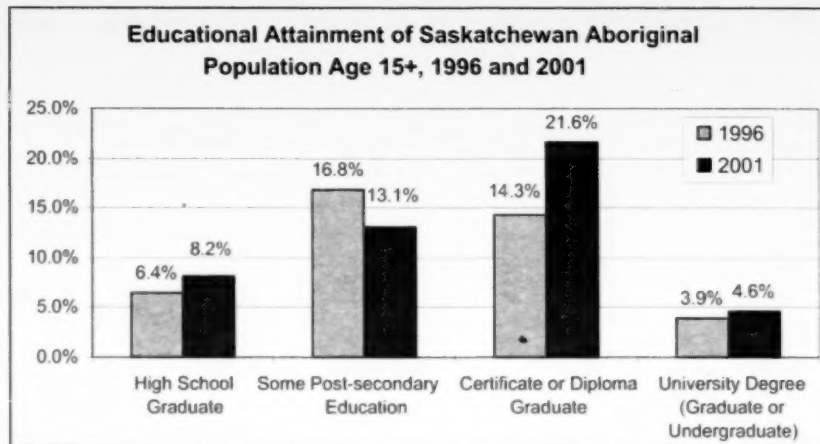
Student debt loads do not take into account the overall investment that education represents over an individual's lifetime. Higher levels of student debt generally reflect increases in the cost of post-secondary education and the cost of living.

**Investing in Quality Post-Secondary Education**

The following investments in the post-secondary system supported the sustainability and high level of quality within the post-secondary sector:

- \$4.9 million for post-secondary infrastructure projects notably sustaining capital for SIAST (\$1.8 million) and the Regional Colleges (\$700,000). The remaining \$2.4 million was provided to the province's universities for principal and interest payments;
- \$5.1 million for training equipment across the training system to support labour market initiatives;
- \$2.0 million to renovate and modernize SIAST's training facilities;
- \$30.3 million for post-secondary education capital, including \$2.8 million for the purchase of two mobile training labs, \$23.6 million for the University of Regina Lab Building addition and \$3.9 million for Palliser Campus renovations. Mobile training labs facilitate training in rural and remote locations across the province. They are designed to provide access to training for students who traditionally might not participate. The labs also provide flexibility to meet the needs of geographically diverse industries; and
- \$9.85 million invested in research and innovation at the province's universities through the Innovation and Science Fund and approximately \$5.6 million went to the International Vaccine Centre at the University of Saskatchewan.

<sup>4</sup> This data includes individuals who have successfully completed their program and those who have withdrawn early. Loan amounts less than \$1,000 or greater than \$50,000 are excluded from the calculation.



**Data Source:**

- Statistics Canada Census Data, 1996 & 2001.

**Working with First Nations and Métis**

A departmental focus throughout 2006/07 was to increase education and training for Aboriginal people and prepare them to enter the labour force. Active engagement with First Nations and Métis post-secondary institutions included the following activities:

- For the first time, the Department provided \$332,000 to SIIT for the delivery of 83 ABE opportunities for urban First Nations people;
- \$1.6 million was provided to SIIT to strengthen its ability to train First Nations students for jobs in our province. This funding resulted in an additional 115 training opportunities; and
- \$0.34 million in funding went to DTI to provide an additional 67 training opportunities.

The Department undertook proactive engagement of First Nations people on-reserve through:

- Funding provided to SIIT for 80 ABE seats for on-reserve learners; and
- Mid-year investments supported Regional Colleges, in partnership with First Nations bands, to deliver 150 ABE opportunities on-reserve.

**Results**

Educational attainment is a key measure in tracking improvements in the participation and success of Aboriginal people. Post-secondary education and training contributes to increasing the knowledge and skills of the province's Aboriginal population. Educational attainment of the Aboriginal population increased between 1996 and 2001: 41.4 per cent of the Aboriginal population aged 15 and over had attained high school graduation or higher in 1996, with an increase to 47.5 per cent in 2001.

Employment rates provide a proxy for the post-secondary sector's responsiveness in meeting the needs of employers, the economy and reflecting the critical importance of training and education to employment. Education is a key factor in gaining employment and financial independence and this relationship, in the knowledge economy, is becoming stronger over time.

Many factors influence employment rates. While educational attainment is an important factor in gaining employment, it is only one of many possible determinants. The employment rate by educational attainment has remained relatively stable over the last five years in Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and nationally<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2006.

<b>Comparison of Employment Rate by Educational Attainment – Total Population and Aboriginal<sup>6</sup></b>						
	2004		2005		2006	
	Total	Aboriginal	Total	Aboriginal	Total	Aboriginal
High School Graduate	82.5%	66.5%	82.0%	71.5%	82.8%	75.2%
Diploma/Certificate	85.5%	75.2%	85.0%	74.1%	85.7%	74.6%
University Degree	87.1%	92.0%	86.8%	87.8%	86.8%	82.6%

#### **Data Source:**

- Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey 2006<sup>7</sup>.

The above table shows the Saskatchewan employment rate by educational attainment of the working population age 15 to 64 years with Grade 12, a diploma, certificate or a degree.

Although the employment rate of Aboriginal residents with a university degree is similar to that of the population in general, Aboriginal high school and diploma/certificate graduates experience much lower employment rates. However, these figures should be viewed with caution as they only include off-reserve data.

#### **Attract**

To address current and anticipated labour market shortages, the province must attract workers from other jurisdictions in Canada and from other parts of the world. In-migration and immigration will expand the province's population base and better position it for effective competition within a global market. Increasing the labour force participation rates of women, youth, older workers, Aboriginal people, persons with disabilities, immigrants and other historically under-represented groups will also increase the labour supply. Continued implementation and expansion of the province's Immigration plan included the following activities:

- The province invested \$6.3 million during the 2006/07 fiscal year, up from \$2.5 million in 2005/06, to implement an ambitious Immigration Strategy, provide language and employment services and implement the welcoming communities program to facilitate the settlement and integration of newcomers in the province. The strategy includes a new "Family

Members" category so that immigrant families can support family members from abroad who want to live and work in this province. These increased investments will help newcomers create a new home in Saskatchewan.

6 Note: For 2004 only, the annual average is based on April 2004 to March 2005. This information does not include all Aboriginal people, only those off-reserve who historically have had greater labour force attachment success. Data for Aboriginal persons has a high degree of variability due to small sample size.

7 Some changes to the Labour Force Survey (LFS) were introduced, which affect data back to 1987. There are three reasons for this revision:

- 1) The revision enables the use of improved population benchmarks in the LFS estimation process. These improved benchmarks provide better information on the number of non-permanent residents.
- 2) There are changes to the data for the public and private sectors from 1987 to 1999. In the past, the data on the public and private sectors for this period were based on an old definition of the public sector. The revised data better reflects the current public sector definition and therefore results in a longer time series for analysis.
- 3) The geographic coding of several small Census Agglomerations (CA) has been updated historically from 1996 urban centre boundaries to 2001 CA boundaries. This affects data from January 1987 to December 2004. It is important to note that the changes to almost all estimates are minor, with the exception of the public sector series and some associated industries from 1987 to 1999. Rates of unemployment, employment and participation are essentially unchanged, as are all key labour market trends.

- Approximately 300 language-training opportunities in Regina, Saskatoon, North Battleford and surrounding communities, Tisdale and surrounding communities, Swift Current and surrounding communities, Kinistino, Humboldt and Prince Albert were funded.
- In the 2006/07 fiscal year, the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP) issued 1,255 nominations, putting the province one year ahead of schedule in delivering its Immigration Strategy (an increase of 176 per cent compared to 454 nominations in 2005/06). The top three source countries of birth for SINP nominees were Philippines, Ukraine and China. Over 80 per cent of SINP nominees were either in the Skilled Worker or Family Members categories.
- The province launched a new SINP Entrepreneur Category to replace the old Business category. This new category will create greater program flexibility and will bring between 100 and 200 business immigrants yearly to Saskatchewan by 2008. In 2006/07, the Department received over 300 pre-applications and more than 200 prospective applicants undertook exploratory visits to Saskatchewan.
- To facilitate the recruitment of skilled Filipino workers to Saskatchewan under the SINP, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of the Philippines was signed.
- International promotion and recruitment missions to Ukraine/Serbia, the Philippines, Korea, China, Germany, France, Belgium and Switzerland to promote the SINP and attract immigrant workers and entrepreneurs to Saskatchewan were undertaken.
- The Long-Haul Truck Driver Project was implemented to allow provincial long-haul trucking firms to apply for assistance in locating immigrants to help address trucking industry labour shortages.

During 2006/07, the Department conducted an active marketing and promotion campaign aimed at attracting new workers from outside the province:

- Efforts focused on marketing Saskatchewan's lifestyle and cost of living advantages to residents of Alberta and Ontario. The focal point for the advertising was the provincial job order system, SaskJobs, where over 6,000 jobs are posted each day demonstrating the significant employment opportunities in Saskatchewan.
- In January 2007, AEE launched a marketing campaign for SaskJobs throughout Alberta. The campaign attracted more than 12,000 unique visitors to the website and it received a significant amount of positive media coverage and generated a great deal of positive dialogue in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- In spring 2007, billboard advertising of SaskJobs was initiated in London, St. Thomas, Sarnia and the Windsor area to attract workers affected by the slowdown in the region's manufacturing sector. This promotion resulted in almost 8,000 visits to the website.
- To more effectively match employers with potential employees, AEE sent over 32,000 letters to Saskatchewan employers promoting SaskJobs. This resulted in a significant increase in job orders. The number of jobs posted to the site doubled to a high of 11,000. In the three months following the campaign, there were significant increases in some locations: Saskatoon up 65 per cent, Regina up 54 per cent, North Battleford up 61 per cent and Estevan up 75 per cent.

# 2006/07 Financial Results

## Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are \$0.5 million or greater.

*in thousands of dollars*

	Original Estimate	Actual Expenditure	Variance Over/ (Under)
<b>Subvote/Subprogram</b>			
<b>Central Management and Services</b>			
Executive Management	940	1,215	275
Central Services	10,493	10,971	478
Accommodation Services	5,141	5,356	215
<b>Subvote Total</b>	<b>16,574</b>	<b>17,542</b>	<b>968</b>
<b>Student Support Programs</b>			
Operational Support	3,958	3,550	(408)
Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund	31,526	31,526	—
Provincial Training Allowance	27,334	22,571	(4,763)
Skills Training Benefits	9,093	8,602	—
Apprenticeship Training Allowance	1,556	1,354	(202)
Employability Assistance for People with Disabilities	5,400	5,658	258
<b>Subvote Total</b>	<b>78,867</b>	<b>73,261</b>	<b>(5,606)</b>
<b>Post – Secondary Education</b>			
Operational Support	2,127	2,316	189
Universities, Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Educational Agencies	277,328	277,912	584
Saskatchewan Universities – Urban Parks	900	900	—
Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)			
– Operating	78,615	84,605	5,990
– Saskatchewan Property Management Corp.	25,129	25,129	—
Regional Colleges	18,374	20,507	2,133
French Language Institute	2,695	2,045	(650)
Post-Secondary Capital	4,900	78,045	73,145
Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission	11,153	11,650	497
Technology Enhanced Learning	4,907	4,923	16
Innovation and Science Fund	9,850	9,850	—
<b>Subvote Total</b>	<b>435,978</b>	<b>517,882</b>	<b>81,904</b>
<b>Immigration</b>	<b>6,314</b>	<b>4,668</b>	<b>(1,646)</b>
<b>Training Programs</b>			
Operational Support	1,175	1,181	6
JobStart–Future Skills	17,150	22,675	5,525
Northern Skills Training	2,136	3,396	1,260
Basic Education	13,706	16,226	2,520
Interprovincial Agreements	1,280	1,237	(43)
<b>Subvote Total</b>	<b>35,447</b>	<b>44,715</b>	<b>9,268</b>
<b>Career and Employment Services</b>			
Operational Support	10,472	11,411	939
Employment Programs	10,532	9,981	(551)
Client and Community Support	6,598	7,068	470
Labour Market Information	1,553	1,690	137
<b>Subvote Total</b>	<b>29,155</b>	<b>30,150</b>	<b>995</b>

*Continued on next page*



Continued from previous page

	Original Estimate	Actual Expenditure	Variance Over/ (Under)
<b>Capital Asset Acquisition</b>		<b>3,574</b>	<b>3,574</b> <sup>14</sup>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>602,335</b>	<b>691,792</b>	<b>89,457</b>
Supplementary Estimates	88,470	—	(88,470)
Special Warrant	3,574		(3,574)
<b>Total Advanced Education and Employment Appropriation</b>	<b>694,379</b>	<b>691,792</b>	<b>(2,587)</b>
<b>Capital Asset Acquisitions</b>	<b>(809)</b>	<b>(4,707)</b>	<b>(3,898)</b>
<b>Capital Asset Amortization</b>	<b>2,410</b>	<b>2,329</b>	<b>(81)</b>
<b>Total Advanced Education and Employment Expense</b>	<b>695,980</b>	<b>689,414</b>	<b>(6,566)</b>

The 2006/07 department appropriation budget was \$602.335 million. The department over expended on non-statutory funding by \$89.457 million from the General Revenue Fund. This over expenditure was offset by \$88.47 million in supplementary estimates and \$3.574 million for special warrant resulting in an overall under expenditure of the appropriation of \$2.587 million.

Supplementary estimates for \$88.47 million were to cover non-statutory appropriation expenditures including \$72.530 million for capital funding to the universities of \$18.086 million to advance sustaining capital, \$23.6 million for University of Regina Lab building, \$17 million for Mount Royal, \$3.9 million for the SIAST Palliser campus, \$2.839 million for mobile labs, \$5.105 million for Labour Market Related training equipment and \$2 million for facility upgrades and modernization. An additional \$15.94 million advanced the mid-year strategy by increasing training capacity in 2006/07 through the training institutions \$2.448 million, training programs \$9.973 million, Career and Employment Services \$1.045 million and providing additional student support through the Provincial Training Allowance of \$2.474 million.

Special warrant for \$3.574 million was to allow the government to appropriately account for the addition to the SIAST Kelsey Campus which it owns. This is fully offset by revenue received from SIAST. The net financial impact to government is \$0. The Provincial Comptroller and SIAST's auditors agree with this transaction.

#### Explanations for Major Variances on Appropriation Budget

1. The Provincial Training Allowance was under budget by \$4.763 million. An increase of funding of \$2.474 million from supplementary estimates for the Labour Market Strategy was offset by a \$7.237 million under expenditure as a result of a reduction in the number of clients requesting income support while in training and a \$60 increase in the allowance, which was implemented in the August 2006/07 budget instead of the budgeted April implementation.
2. Universities, Federated and Affiliated Colleges and Educational Agencies were over budget by \$0.584 million reflecting one-time transition funding to the Federated College of \$0.5 million, \$0.25 million for the University of Saskatchewan Congress, \$0.2 million to the National Skills Canada Competition offset by savings in the Northern Health Access Program.
3. The SIAST Operating Grant was over budget by \$5.99 million reflecting \$5.1 million for one-time Collective Agreement Costs and \$0.89 million expended for the Labour Market Strategy (offset by supplementary estimates funding of \$1.202 million).
4. Regional Colleges were over budget by \$2.133 million reflecting \$1.186 million for one-time Collective Agreement costs (including

- Dumont Technical Institute pay equity) and \$1.025 million expended for the Labour Market Strategy, offset by savings of \$0.038 million for DPM lease costs and \$0.04 million for Recognition of Prior Learning funding.
5. French Language Institute was under budget by \$0.65 million for capital. The funding was not required for 2006/07.
  6. Post-secondary capital exceeded budget by \$73.145 million reflecting capital funding from supplementary estimates for the universities of \$18.086 million to advance sustaining capital, \$23.6 million for University of Regina Lab building, \$17 million for Mount Royal, \$3.9 million for the SIAST Palliser campus, \$2.839 million for mobile labs, \$5.105 million for Labour Market related training equipment, \$2 million for facility upgrades and modernization and \$0.615 million for Kelsey leasehold improvements, Phase 1.
  7. SATCC was over budget by \$0.497 million for \$0.29 million for one-time Collective Agreement costs and \$0.207 million expended for the Labour Market Strategy (offset by supplementary estimate funding of \$0.221 million).
  8. Immigration was under budget by \$1.646 million reflecting the fact that the branch operated at less than full capacity for the first part of the year due to the hiring and retention of new staff.
  9. JobStart/Future Skills was over budget by \$5.525 million primarily as the result of funding of \$5.296 million for the Labour Market Strategy as included in supplementary estimates. In addition, there was a \$0.86 million increase in training for the work-based unemployed program due to high employer demand offset by lower than anticipated demand from employers for the work-based employed program and a redirection of under utilized funds from other program areas.
  10. Northern Skills Training was over budget by \$1.26 million reflecting \$2 million for the Northern Development Agreement as included in supplementary estimates offset by \$0.74 million savings in forestry contracts in the north.
  11. Basic Education was over budget by \$2.52 million reflecting \$2.677 million for the Labour Market Strategy as included in supplementary estimates, offset by \$0.033 million under expenditure to offset an over expenditure in Learning's Literacy Commission and a redirection of \$0.124 million to other programs and services.
  12. Career and Employment Services Operational Support was over budget by \$0.939 million reflecting expenditures for the Youth Summit of \$0.404 million offset by \$0.75 million in supplementary estimates, \$0.453 million to provide counselling and case management services for Metis clients (100% federally funded), \$0.443 million for retro pay and signing bonus offset by under expenditures in other areas.
  13. Employment Programs were under budget by \$0.551 million as the result of lower client utilization. The under expenditure more than offset the over expenditure in Client and Community Support as the result of higher than anticipated client demand.
  14. Capital Asset Acquisition is a new subvote set up specifically to reflect the expenditure of \$3.574 million to allow the government to appropriately account for the addition to the SIAST Kelsey Campus which it owns. This is fully offset by revenue received from SIAST. The net financial impact to government is \$0. The Provincial Comptroller and SIAST's auditors agree with this transaction.



## Summary of Revenues

The department collects revenue primarily attributable to federal-provincial cost sharing agreements, as well as fee related services, publications and other miscellaneous items. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund (GRF). A summary of the department's 2006/07 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than \$20,000.

*in thousands of dollars*

<b>Revenue Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual Revenue</b>	<b>Variance Over/ (Under)</b>
<b>Privileges, Licences and Permits</b>			
Teacher Certificates			-
Property and Building Rentals	84	92	8
Examination Fees	60	51	(9)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Sales, Services and Service Fees</b>			
Maps, Prints, Books and Publications			-
Other Miscellaneous Services	8	10	2
Other Registration Fees	42	31	(11)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>(9)</b>
<b>Interest, Premiums, Discount and Exchange</b>			
Profit on Foreign Exchange	1	0	(1)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1)</b>
<b>Receipts From Other Governments</b>			
Federal-Provincial Cost Sharing Programs	56,334	48,804	(7,530)
Employability Assistance	5,824	5,824	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>62,158</b>	<b>54,628</b>	<b>(7,530)</b>
<b>Other Revenue</b>			
Proceeds from Other Funds	0	3,574	3,574
Casual Revenue	214	386	172
Refund of Previous Year's Expenditures	200	435	235
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>4,395</b>	<b>3,981</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$62,767</b>	<b>\$59,207</b>	<b>(\$3,560)</b>

## Explanations of Major Variances

1. Revenue from federal-provincial cost sharing programs were lower than budgeted by \$7.53 million. This was primarily due to a decision by the federal government not to proceed with the Labour Market Partnership Agreement (\$7.371 million). In addition, less federal funding was provided for Labour Market Development Agreement programs (\$0.037 million), the revenue budget was overstated for the promotion of Bilingualism in Education (\$0.64 million) and lower revenue was received than was anticipated for the Older Workers' Program (\$0.34 million). This was offset by revenue from new federal-provincial agreements for counselling and case management services for Metis clients (\$0.667 million), Enhanced Language Training (\$0.2 million), the Office of French Language Coordination (\$0.039 million) and a transfer of revenue from the Department of Health for the International Education for Health Professionals agreement (\$0.134 million).
2. Revenue from the proceeds of other funds exceeded budget by \$3.574 million due to monies received from SIAST for the Kelsey Campus capital addition. This funding fully offsets the special warrant received by AEE to allow the government to appropriately account for the addition to the SIAST Kelsey Campus which it owns. The net financial impact to government is \$0. The Provincial Comptroller and SIAST's auditors agree with this transaction.
3. Revenue from casual revenue exceeded budget by \$0.172 million as a result of revenue from the Youth Summit, revenue from a secondment agreement with the Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy (SIPP), an increase in revenue for the administration of the Millennium Scholarship Fund and an increase in funding for the printing of Student Loan materials.
4. Revenue from previous years' expenditures exceeded budget by \$0.235 million primarily as the result of increased recovery of over payments related to clients of Provincial Training Allowance, Skills Training Benefit, Employment Programs, and Client and Community Supports.

## **Special Funds**

*(All audited financial statements for departments and special funds for the 2006/07 fiscal period may be found at [www.gov.sk.ca/finance/paccts/paccts05/compendium/index.htm](http://www.gov.sk.ca/finance/paccts/paccts05/compendium/index.htm)).*

### **Student Aid Fund**

The Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund was created in 1949 by the Government of Saskatchewan to ensure that students would not be denied access to post-secondary education or training due to lack of financial means. Since then, the Fund has assisted thousands of individuals in attaining their career goals.

Beginning in 2006/07, the Fund will be reported under the Department of Advanced Education and Employment. For audited financial statements or further information, please refer to the Department's website at [www.aee.gov.sk.ca](http://www.aee.gov.sk.ca).

### **Training Completions Fund**

The Training Completions Fund was created under *The Private Vocational Schools Regulation Act*, 1995. *The Act* was proclaimed on December 15, 1995.

Beginning in 2006/07, the Fund will be administered by the Department of Advanced Education and Employment. The revenue of the Fund consists of monies that operators are directed by regulations to provide, donations to the Fund and earnings from the investments of the Fund. The Fund is primarily used to provide the financial resources necessary to continue the training of students affected by the closure of a private vocational school.

For audited financial statements or further information, please contact the Communications Branch in the Department of Advanced Education and Employment.

## **Guaranteed Debt**

Advanced Education and Employment has Guaranteed Debt through responsibility for the Risk Premium Agreement with the Royal Bank. For further information, please refer to Appendix A.

### **Loans**

Advanced Education and Employment administers the Student Loans Program for the Province of Saskatchewan. For further information, please refer to Appendix B.

# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Student Assistance and Student Aid Fund Act - Risk Premium Agreement

Guaranteed debt represents a guarantee to the Royal Bank for bankruptcy and/or death of a borrower before loan consolidation within the Student Loans Program. As the number of loans owing to the Royal Bank decrease, so should the guaranteed debt year after year.

*in thousands of dollars*

<b>Risk Premium Agreement</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance Over/ (Under)</b>
Total Outstanding Balance at Beginning of Year	98	102	4
Additions			—
Reductions	(22)	(31)	(9)
<b>Total Outstanding Balance at Year End</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>(5)</b>

### Explanation of Variances

1. The Royal Bank Loan Guarantee is determined with reference to projections of outstanding "in school" loans. Adjustments to projections undertaken at year-end generated small actual to budget variances.

## Appendix B

### Student Loans Program

Effective August 1, 2001, the Province assumed responsibility for the financing of student loans. A loan from the General Revenue Fund (GRF) is provided to the Student Aid Fund to support this role. The interest rate charge on the loan is at the Province's average eight year cost of borrowing.

The loan program supports the Department's objective to "increase the participation of low-income individuals in post-secondary education and training" through access to student loan funding for tuition and living costs.

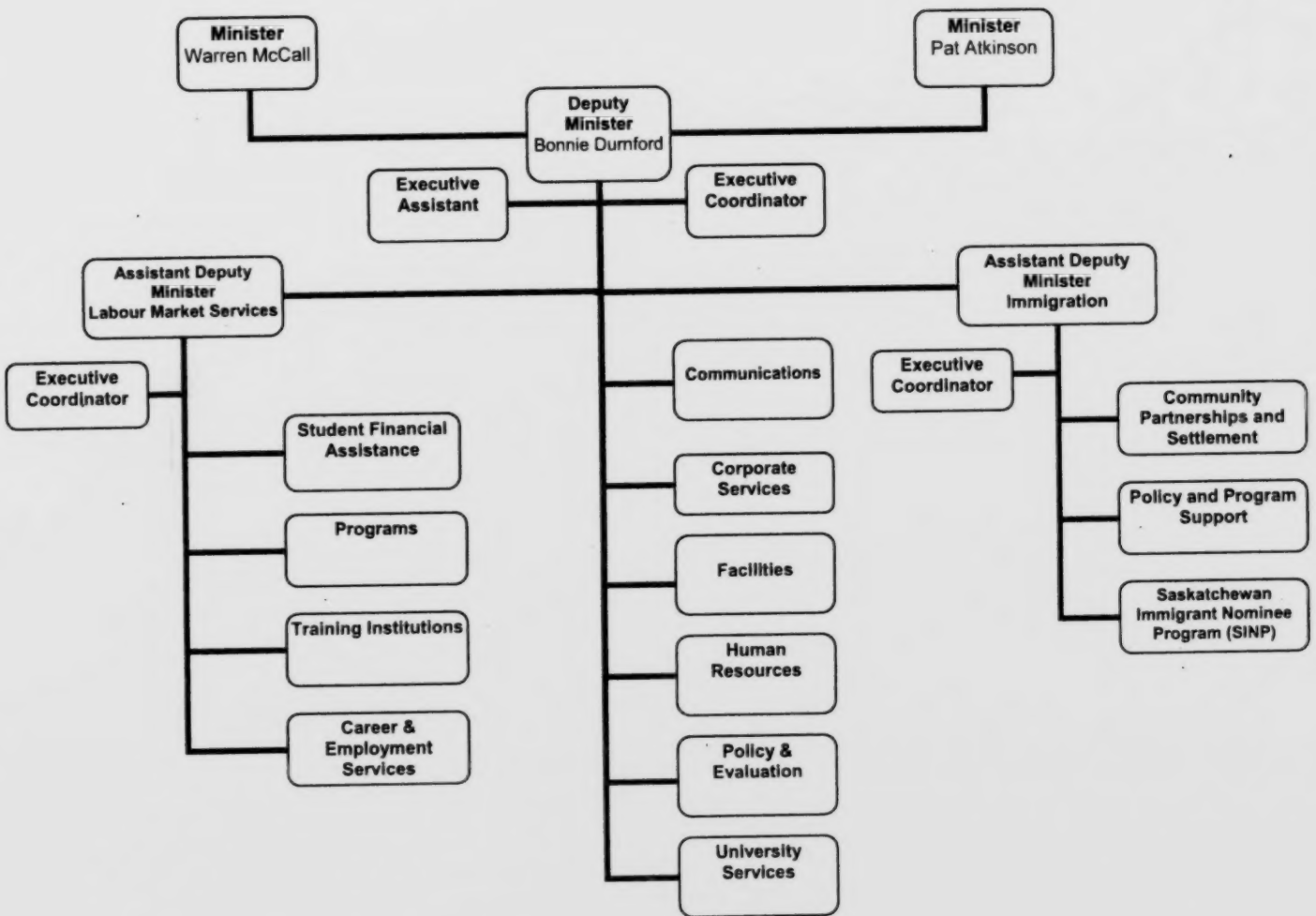
*in thousands of dollars*

Student Loans Program	Budget	Actual	Variance	
			Over/ (Under)	
		(unaudited)		
Total Outstanding Balance at Beginning of Year	109,425	103,421	(6,004)	<sup>1</sup>
Disbursements from the General Revenue Fund	62,000	51,000	(11,000)	<sup>1</sup>
Receipts to the General Revenue Fund	(52,700)	(50,100)	2,600	<sup>2</sup>
<b>Total Outstanding Balance at Year End</b>	<b>118,725</b>	<b>104,321</b>	<b>(14,404)</b>	<sup>1</sup>

### Explanation of Variance

1. In both 2005/06 and 2006/07, student loan authorizations were below budget. The sole purpose of the GRF loan to the Student Aid Fund is to support student loan funding. As a result of student loan authorizations falling below expectations, there is a reduced requirement to draw on the GRF loan.
2. In part, GRF loan repayments are based on grants and bursaries paid to students. With lower than budgeted loan disbursements, the total value of grants and bursaries awarded is also reduced. This resulted in slightly lower than budgeted loan repayments in the current fiscal year.

# Appendix C - Organizational Chart



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## Where to Obtain Additional Information

If you have any questions or comments, or would like additional copies of the 2006/07 annual report, we invite you to call (306) 787-9478 or contact:

Advanced Education and Employment  
Communications Branch  
9th Floor, 1945 Hamilton Street  
Regina, SK S4P 2C8

To download a copy of the report or to obtain more information about post-secondary education and training, as well as other programs and services contained in this annual report, please visit the Department's website at [www.aee.gov.sk.ca](http://www.aee.gov.sk.ca).







